

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LILONG 00991 230804Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 /065 W

-----053812 230806Z /10

R 230537Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1010

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LILONGWE 0991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OAU, MI

SUBJECT: MALAWI AT OAU SUMMIT

REF: A. LILONGWE 0827; B. STATE 134061

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTED JUNE 22 THAT MINISTER INDUSTRY, TRADE AND TOURISM, EDWARD BWANALI, DEPARTED FOR LIBREVILLE TO ATTEND BOTH OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING AND SUMMIT. BWANALI YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY BUT WOULD HAVE NO REPEAT NO LATITUDE FOR INDEPENDENT DECISION IN ANY CASE. HE IS FRIENDLY AND APPROACHABLE.

2. MALAWI'S FOREIGN POLICY IS PRIVATE PURVIEW OF LIFE PRESIDENT BANDA AND GOM DEL AT LIBREVILLE WILL SCRUPULOUSLY FOLLOW USUAL MALAWI POSITIONS WHICH ANTI-COMMUNIST, CONSERVATIVE ON SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUES AND SUPPORTIVE OF ISRAEL. GOM FAVORS PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND MAY BE EXPECTED TO PUSH BANDA'S LINE OF "CONTACT AND DIAWOGUE". MALAWI WOULD CONDEMN APARTHEID, BUT WOULD NOT GO ALONG WITH ANY CALL FOR ECONOMIC OR MILITARY ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WHICH IS CRUCIAL TRADING PARTNER.

3. IN SUM, MALAWI WILL BE IDEOLOGICALLY DISCORDANT WITH
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GREAT MAJORITY OAU MEMBERS. IT IS ONLY BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRY WHICH HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND IN WHICH PRETORIA REPRESENTED. BUT BEING "ODD MAN OUT" NOT NEW FOR BANDA WHO EVEN BOASTS OF THIS STATUS. GIVEN MALAWI'S MAVERICK POSITIONS, GOM DEL EXPECTED TO MAINTAIN LOWSPROFILE AT LIBREVILLE BUT PAST EXPERIENCE SHOWS IT WOULD MAKE STAND ON MATTER OF PRINCIPLE.

HOFFMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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